



US005821871A

United States Patent [19]
Benzler[11] **Patent Number:** **5,821,871**
[45] **Date of Patent:** **Oct. 13, 1998**[54] **AUTHENTICATION METHOD**[75] **Inventor:** **Hartwig Benzler, Feldkirchen,**
GermanyB-0 007 002 1/1980 European Pat. Off. .
B-0 029 894 6/1981 European Pat. Off. .
A-0 034 755 9/1981 European Pat. Off. .

(List continued on next page.)

[73] **Assignee:** **SC-Info+Inno Technologie**
Informationen+Innovationen GMBH
CC, Germany**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**Smith, "Authenticating users by word association," *Computers & Security*, vol. 6, No. 6, 1987, Amsterdam, NL, pp. 464-470, XP 000050578.Zviran, "Cognitive passwords: the key to easy access control," *Computers & Security*, vol. 9, No. 8, 1990, Amsterdam, NL, pp. 723-736, XP 000176620.[21] **Appl. No.:** **682,524**[22] **PCT Filed:** **Jan. 19, 1995**[86] **PCT No.:** **PCT/EP95/00178**§ 371 Date: **Jun. 25, 1996**§ 102(e) Date: **Jun. 25, 1996**[87] **PCT Pub. No.:** **WO95/20802****PCT Pub. Date:** **Aug. 3, 1995**[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Jan. 27, 1994	[DE]	Germany	44 02 430.4
May 11, 1994	[DE]	Germany	44 16 665.6
Jun. 7, 1994	[DE]	Germany	44 19 882.5
Jul. 5, 1994	[DE]	Germany	44 23 415.5
Aug. 26, 1994	[DE]	Germany	44 30 368.8
Dec. 4, 1994	[DE]	Germany	44 43 039.6
Oct. 11, 1995	[DE]	Germany	44 36 340.0

[51] **Int. Cl.⁶** **G07D 7/00**[52] **U.S. Cl.** **340/825.34; 340/825.31;**
235/382[58] **Field of Search** **340/825.31, 825.34;**
235/382, 382.5; 380/45[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

4,432,567	2/1984	Stockburger et al.	283/83
4,449,189	5/1984	Feix et al.	364/513.5
5,037,301	8/1991	Michnick et al.	433/229
5,109,427	4/1992	Yang	382/4

(List continued on next page.)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

A-0 006 419 1/1980 European Pat. Off. .

25 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets